



Isiah Leggett, County Executive  
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director  
Mark Firley, UCAB Chair

**January 21, 2016**

***Upcounty residents, organizations & businesses . . . Your comments are needed!***

***What are your thoughts on the County's Operating Budget?  
Come and share your suggestions!***



**County Executive Leggett to Hold Public Forum on the FY17 Budget**

**Monday, January 25 7:00pm  
BlackRock Center for the Arts  
12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, MD**

This is a great opportunity for the community to provide input for the County's budget for fiscal year 2017 which begins on July 1, 2016 and ends on June 30, 2017. Come out with your questions and suggestions!

Click for map [BlackRock Center for the Arts: January 25, 2016.](#) The County Executive announces his Recommended Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget in March. The County Council must approve the operating budget by the end of May. Learn more about the County's operating budget at <https://reports.data.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb> !

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, call 240-777-6507, TTY 240-773-3556 or email a request to [Karen.falcon@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Karen.falcon@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**Inclement weather policy for County-appointed boards, committees and commissions** --- If Montgomery County Public Schools open late, morning meetings are cancelled. If schools close early, or if afternoon or evening activities are cancelled, afternoon and evening meetings are cancelled. If schools are closed all day, all meetings for that day and evening will be cancelled.

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***County Council Snow Emergency Message:***

**CANCELLED – Monday, January 25: 9:30am PS and HHS Committees, 12:30pm State Legislation, 2:00pm PHED and ED Committees, and Council President's weekly meeting with media.**

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**Montgomery County Council to Host Town Hall Meeting for Clarksburg area**

**Wednesday, January 27 8:00pm  
Rocky Hill Middle School  
22401 Brick Haven Way, Clarksburg  
A pre-meeting reception will begin at 7:30pm**

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## *Be Weather Smart!*

**Get Where You Need to Go Before Snow Starts Friday.**

**Stay Off the Roads All Weekend.**

**County Govt. Parking Lots, Garages Free Friday Noon Til at Least 9 AM Monday.**

Montgomery County Offers Cold Weather Information for People and Animals; Community Members Strongly Advised to Heed Precautions for Extreme Cold. For details, visit

[http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?PrID=15669](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?PrID=15669)

### ***3 Things You Need to Get Ready***

1. Sign up for [Alert Montgomery](#).
2. Keep these Phone Numbers handy.
  - Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911 Police
  - Non-emergency: 301-279-8000
  - County Information & Service: [311](#)
3. [Make an Emergency Kit](#).

Visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/snow](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/snow) for more information.

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**Good Neighbors  
Clear Their Sidewalks  
of Ice & Snow.  
Be A Good Neighbor.**



County residents are required by law to clear sidewalks in front of and alongside their properties within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. But don't just do it because it's the law.

- Do it for schoolkids.
- Do it for older adults.
- Do it for folks who depend on transit.
- Do it for yourself and your family.
- When shoveling, please keep snow clear from fire hydrants!

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## Public Hearing on Goshen Road Improvements Project

Thursday, January 28 7:15pm

Whetstone Elementary School

19201 Thomas Farm Road, Gaithersburg

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Engineering will present a description of the proposed project and obtain input from the community. This is a facility planning phase II project to widen Goshen Road from the existing 2-lane roadway to a 4-lane, major divided highway with a 5-foot sidewalk and an 8-foot hiker/biker path and on-road bike lanes within a right-of-way from Girard Street to just north of Warfield Road in Gaithersburg, a distance of approximately 3.5 miles

### For more information and to forward written comments, contact:

Michael F. Mitchell, P.E., Program Manager

Design Section

Division of Transportation Engineering

Telephone: 240-777-7262

100 Edison Park Drive, 4 Floor

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

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### *Know the Facts!*

## Montgomery County's Local Liquor Operations

All jurisdictions "control" the sale of alcohol in some way and about one-third of Americans live in jurisdictions with systems similar to that of Montgomery County. To learn more, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/liquor](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/liquor).

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### *A message from the County's Fire & Rescue Service . . .*

## Cool Your Ashes!

We have had two significant house fires in the County in less than two weeks that were attributed to improperly disposed/handled fireplace ashes. We need your HELP in alerting and educating your family, friends and neighbors on this important issue -- particularly with the frigid weather in the forecast.

### **Every year "cold ashes" from fireplaces result in house fires.**

**FACT:** Many people don't realize the length of time required for ashes to cool enough for disposal. Coals and ashes from fires can remain hot enough to reignite and start a fire for many days after the fire is out. The exact amount of time for complete extinguishment and cooling depends on many factors such as how hot the fire was, what was burning, how much unburned fuel remains, etc.

**BE SAFE:** Treat ALL ashes and coals as HOT ashes, even when you think they had time enough to cool. Take care to dispose of them wisely. Your house, deck or garage are unsafe locations for storing ashes while they cool and have been the site of many recent and devastating fires both locally and nationally. Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside and at least 10 feet from your home or nearby buildings.

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## **Familiarize Yourself with the New Voting System Before the Presidential Primary Election**

The Montgomery County Board of Elections encourages the County's residents to become familiar with the new, paper based, digital image scan voting system prior to arriving for the Presidential Primary Election, Tuesday, April 26, or during Early Voting, April 14 - 21. Demonstration voting units will be available at the Montgomery County Board of Elections, 18753 N. Frederick Ave., Suite 210, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-3121; Tel: 240-777-8500; MD Relay: 1-800-735-2258.

This year the State of Maryland is implementing a new, paper based, optical scan voting system. During Early Voting, voters will make their selections on a ballot-marking device. Once all selections are made, a ballot will be printed. The voter will then verify the ballot and insert it in a scanner for tabulation. On Election Day, voters will mark their selections with a pen on paper ballots prior to inserting them in the scanner for tabulation.

For a list of upcoming outreach events, where the new system may be seen, visit our website at [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org). For additional information **contact Dr. Gilberto Zelaya, 240-777-8532**; or email [gilberto.zelaya@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:gilberto.zelaya@montgomerycountymd.gov).

For more election information, call 240-777-VOTE, visit [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org), the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at <http://elections.state.md.us>, or follow the Montgomery County Board of Elections on Facebook or Twitter.

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## **Leggett Announces Six-Year Capital Construction Budget; Focus on Education, Job & Business Creation, Affordable Housing, Transit, Road Maintenance**

[http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?PrID=15664](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?PrID=15664)

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## **Montgomery Council requests Governor and Maryland DOT to reinstate full interchange plan for I-270 and Watkins Mill Road**

The nine members of the Montgomery County Council have sent a letter to Maryland Governor Larry Hogan and Peter Rahn, the secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, asking that the state proceed with the original design of the long-planned interchange at I-270 and Watkins Mill Road in Gaithersburg. It was recently learned that the State planned to significantly scale back the project.

Read the full letter at [http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?PrID=15676](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?PrID=15676)

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**For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit:** <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

*For other news and meeting agendas, visit:*

**County Council** <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cshtml.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>

**Planning Board** [http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news\\_releases](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases)

**Also check out the latest from:**

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permitting.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>